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Kernan Awards Recycled Product Purchasing Grant to Liberty Township Volunteer Fire Department

INDIANAPOLIS — The Liberty Township Volunteer Fire Department will soon be able to demonstrate how valuable recycled-content products can be, even in emergency situations.

Lt. Governor Joe Kernan announced today that the Indiana Department of Commerce's Energy Policy Division has awarded the fire department a \$500 Recycled Product Purchasing Grant to buy recycled plastic cribbing. "Cribbing" refers to the blocks that are placed under a vehicle to stabilize it in an emergency situation while rescue crews remove the passengers.

"The fire department's choice to use recycled-content cribbing is a model for others around the state, and it demonstrates to all of us that recycling is truly a process," said Kernan, who serves as director of the Department of Commerce. "Collecting cans, bottles and tires is great, but we must also purchase recycled-content products in order to complete the cycle."

Liberty Township Volunteer Fire Department will replace the wooden cribbing sets it currently uses with 100 percent recycled polyethylene cribbing. The new cribbing has proven to be stronger and more reliable than wooden sets, and many Indiana fire departments are beginning to use the plastic product as a substitute.

Recycled Product Purchasing Grants promote the purchase of recycled-content products in Indiana. The grants are available for trial or demonstration projects by local government entities throughout the state, including public schools; solid waste management districts; and county, city or town governments. Grants of up to \$5,000 are available per applicant, not to exceed 50 percent of eligible project costs.

The Indiana Recycling Energy Development Board, which meets quarterly, reviews grant proposals and determines awards. The Energy Policy Division of the Indiana Department of Commerce administers the program. For more information on the Energy Policy Division's recycling programs, please contact Sarah Carney or Tiffany Sorge at 317. 232.8940 or visit www.CommerceRecycles.in.gov.

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